



Docket No.: 250084US2

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/796,194

Applicants: Keiichi SATOH, et al.

Filing Date: March 10, 2004

For: BULK PAPER FEEDING DEVICE WITH
INTERMEDIATE CONVEYOR FOR IMAGE
FORMING DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 2854

Examiner: YAN, REN LUO

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our credit card payment form in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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DOCKET NO: 250084US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

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KEIICHI SATOH, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: YAN, REN LUO

SERIAL NO: 10/796,194

:

FILED: MARCH 10, 2004

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2854

FOR: BULK PAPER FEEDING DEVICE
WITH INTERMEDIATE CONVEYOR FOR
IMAGE FORMING DEVICE

:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed July 7, 2006, Applicants hereby elect Group I, Claims 1-9. This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-35 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be performed without serious burden. MPEP §803 states that if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

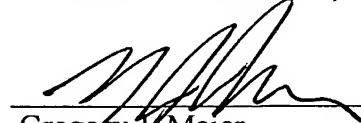
It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Application No. 10/796,194
Reply to Office Action of July 7, 2006

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the Restriction Requirement and to examine all claims in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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